



Lexington Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
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Transportation Planning for Fayette & Jessamine Counties

MPO News

Applications being Accepted for Transportation Alternatives Program

The Lexington Area MPO will be accepting applications for Transportation Alternatives Program funding beginning September 1, 2014 and ending October 31, 2014. [Click here](#) for guidance on how to apply for MPO TAP funds.

The federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides funding for surface transportation projects including bicycle and pedestrian facilities; safe routes to school programs and projects; scenic viewing areas and overlooks; and transportation-related community improvement projects that may include historic preservation, wildlife mortality mitigation, water and environmental quality improvements.

Statewide TAP funds are distributed by the KY Transportation Cabinet. The KYTC is also holding an application cycle through September 30, 2014. [Click here](#) for guidance applying for statewide TAP funds.



3 Major Grants Awarded in Lexington Area

The KY Governor's Office and KY Transportation Cabinet announced more than \$7 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for three projects to improve air quality in the Lexington MPO Area:

- \$2,501,591 to LexTran for the purchase of 7 compressed natural gas powered buses
- \$3,294,400 to the Jessamine County Fiscal Court and RJ Corman Railroad Group, which formed a public-private partnership for the replacement of 2 conventional diesel locomotive engines to 2 more fuel efficient engines
- \$1,258,400 to the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government for the construction of a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station

Federally funded CMAQ grants are for innovative transportation projects or programs aimed at reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality. CMAQ funds are available to state and local government agencies as well as private entities through public-private partnerships.

Nonprofit organizations may also apply in partnership with state or local government agencies.

Bike Facilities Popping Up Around Campus

The University of Kentucky, the Lexington MPO and LFUCG collaborated to add a bicycle lane on Cooper Drive from Nicholasville Road to Sports Center Drive as well as two raised medians to create a pedestrian refuge at crossing points. The project included high-visibility green paint to draw attention to potential conflict points between motorists and bicyclists. More facilities are on the way as well, with new bike lanes planned for sections of Woodland Avenue and Rose Street this fall. Green paint will also make an appearance on the Southland Drive bike lanes currently under construction.



About 75 Sharrows were also added on more than two miles of streets near campus, including Columbia, Waller and Woodland Avenues, Martin Luther King Boulevard and Rose Street.

Shared lane arrows – also known as sharrows – are installed when roadway width is too narrow to install a bike lane. They assist bicyclists with lane positioning, alert road users of the locations bicyclists are likely to occupy, and encourage safe passing of bicyclists by motorists

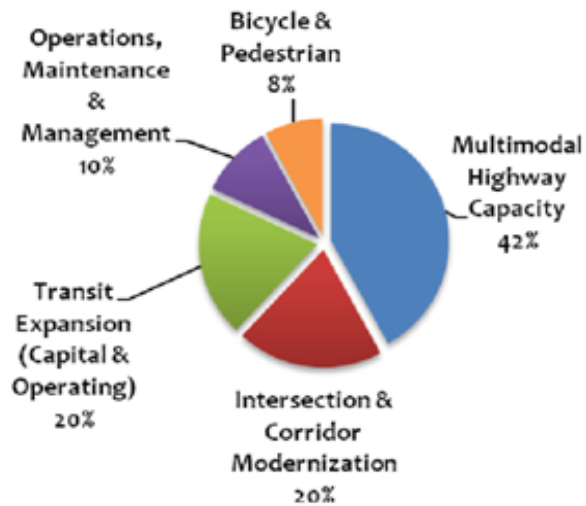
Over 1400 Bike Trips Logged by Local Cyclists

Local cyclists have logged over 1400 bicycle trips to help the MPO identify cycling routes in the Lexington area. Bicyclists are asked to track their trips with their Smartphone using the Cycle Track App available at the App Store and the Andriod Market. The data will be used to identify which roads are most heavily used by bicyclists and to help prioritize routes for bike improvements. Download the app and start logging today.



2040 Transportation Plan Finalized

The finalized [2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan](#) is now available on the [MPO website](#). The 26-year plan, recently approved by the Transportation Policy Committee establishes a framework for how future transportation funding will be expended on a wide array of projects and programs for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. Input from over 2,000 citizens was used to inform the plan. Targets for future funding allocations are shown to the left.



MPO Partner News

Bike Jessamine Takes Place this Weekend!

[Bike Jessamine 2014](#) is a recreational bike ride through Wilmore and beautiful Jessamine County. The scenic route will spotlight the bicycle trail along Harrodsburg Road. There is a choice of a 2 mile fun ride, 12 mile ride and 27 mile ride. The event is being organized by the Jessamine County Trails Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to establishing and maintaining multi-use greenways and paths that will provide enriching recreational opportunities, promote environmental awareness, preserve our natural resources, and encourage healthy lifestyles for its' citizens as well as visitors to the region.



Lextran's Listening - What Do You Think?

Lextran's Comprehensive Operational Analysis is currently underway, and a team of consultants is studying the transportation system. They will make recommendations and this is your opportunity to share your feedback on what you would like to see out of Lextran in the future.

Tuesday September 9th, 2014
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Downtown Central Library – Room A (basement)



Tell us what YOU would like to see for the future of Lextran. We're listening!

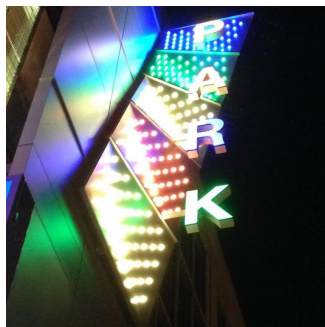
Lextran Awards Funding to Improve Transportation & Jobs Access

The Lextran Board of Directors awarded JARC (Job Access Reverse Commute) and New Freedom federal funds to Yellow Cab, Bluegrass Taxi, ITN Bluegrass and Lextran to improve access to transportation services and employment-related activities for eligible low-income individuals and to expand transportation mobility options facing Americans with disabilities. Awarded projects included:

- Yellow Cab: two (2) wheelchair accessible vans.
- Bluegrass Taxi: three (3) wheelchair accessible vans.
- Independent Transportation Network of the Bluegrass: continuation and expansion of services to provide safe and affordable transportation to people age 60 and older and with visual impairment.
- Lextran: continuation of the JOBS bus service which makes it easier for employees to get to and from work during late-night hours when normal bus service is unavailable.

Art in Motion

Have you checked in with our friends over at [Art in Motion](#) lately? Wow, have they got a lot going on! Check in and see how things are coming along for new artistic bus shelters in Gardenside and on Southland Dr, Leestown Rd and Georgetown Road. The shelter shown to the right will be installed on Leestown Road in the spring of 2015.



Parking Art Installations in Downtown Lexington

LexPark has been hard at work beautifying public parking structures with two recent projects including the impressive Helix garage facade renovation and an eye-catching mural on the pedestrian entrance to the Victorian Square garage. Visit [LexPark's Facebook Page](#) for more photos of the projects.

Help Identify Handicapped Parking Violations

The LFUCG Commission for Citizens with Disabilities is continuing their public education efforts to discourage illegal parking in designated handicapped parking spaces and to make the public aware of new fines that took effect this year. The Commission is also working with businesses to improve handicapped parking striping and signage. The Commission asks residents to submit to LFUCG any known locations where cars are commonly parked in handicapped parking spaces illegally to the email address: wherenottopark@lexingtonky.gov



Public Meetings Held for I-75 Connector Project

The KY Transportation Cabinet and I-75 Connector project team held public information meetings in early August. A preliminary alignment within each zone was presented on large maps and the project team was available to answer questions and receive comments. Additional studies will be conducted within the proposed alignments so they can be considered along with the No Build Alternate. The draft Environmental Assessment will be submitted to KY Transportation Cabinet and Federal Highway Administration in the winter, after which a Public Hearing will be held. For more details, see the I-75 Connector [Website](#).



Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden

LFUCG broke ground on the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden this summer and construction is progressing. Located at the intersection of Third Street and Midland Avenue, the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden is a trailhead for the Legacy Trail, a 10-mile walking and biking trail will connect the East End with the Kentucky Horse Park, where Isaac Murphy is buried. In addition to a number of local public art installations, the park will include seating areas made of native stone, a sunken amphitheater, bike racks and native plants. Visitors will even be able to see the foundation of Isaac Murphy's house. The photo here is of the amphitheater's construction.



You are subscribed to the e-newsletter of the Lexington Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the transportation planning agency for Fayette and Jessamine County. Our goal is to keep our partners and the public informed about local transportation projects, programs and initiatives and to encourage input into our planning process. Please contact us at any time with comments or questions regarding transportation in our region. If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter you may click "unsubscribe" at the bottom of the page.

Sincerely,
Lexington Area MPO Staff

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